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For Immediate Release:
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MAYOR PEREZ APPOINTS PLANNING DIRECTOR

HARTFORD, CT -- Hartford Mayor Eddie A. Perez is pleased to announce the appointment of Roger J. O'Brien as Planning Director within the newly created Department of Development Services. Mr. O'Brien, of Hamden, Connecticut, was selected after a four month nationwide search conducted by Marchese Consulting for the City.

"Roger O'Brien's experience and professional judgment reinforces this administration's commitment to sound urban planning. Our new Department of Development Services will be well served by this exceptional individual as we improve systems and develop plans and implementation strategies for our neighborhoods," stated Mayor Perez.

Mr. O'Brien, a lifelong planning practitioner, holds a B.A. from Fordham University, a Master of Urban Planning from New York University, and a PhD from NYU's graduate School of Arts and Sciences. Additionally, Mr. O'Brien is a member of the American Institute of Certified Planners (AICP).

Mr. O'Brien's professional planning career has been honed in Connecticut. He has served as Development Administrator and Town Planner for the Town of Hamden; Community Development Administrator for the City of New Britain; and Principal Regional Planner for the South Central Connecticut Regional Planning Agency.

Roger O'Brien's experience includes consulting. As principal of O'Brien and Marmo Associates he has provided service to more than a dozen Connecticut communities over

the years, including New Haven, Bridgeport, Fairfield, and New London, and has been recognized as an expert witness by Superior Court of the State of Connecticut.

Mr. O'Brien's academic experience includes time spent as a visiting and Adjunct Professor at the University of New Haven, and an Adjunct Professor at Southern Connecticut State University. He has authored/co-authored countless studies, plans, and reports in the areas of urban planning and economic development.

Director of Development Services John Palmieri added, "The Mayor wanted us to identify the very best candidate for this post and I believe we have done so. Roger's background and experience as a practitioner will provide our Planning Division with the leadership needed to improve planning systems and advance neighborhood revitalization initiatives."

Roger O'Brien, enthusiastic and ready to begin his new job in the City of Hartford said, "Hartford is on the verge of an extraordinary renaissance and I am pleased that Mayor Perez and John have seen fit to invite me to serve on the City's team. As a planner there is no better place to ply one's trade than in the capitol city. I look forward to the challenges ahead and can't wait to get started."